

THALHIMER BROS.

We extend to our customers our heartiest congratulations on this felicitous occasion, and we hope that every one of them and all others will spend a most delightful Christmas day, and receive all the presents that they anticipated.

For the coming year we wish them all the joy and success that can possibly be contained in a twelve-month.

We have enjoyed a most liberal patronage; in truth, our business has far exceeded our most sanguine expectations and has been greater than any previous year in the history of our firm.

We appreciate the confidence reposed in us, and

Will Make Every Effort TO AFFORD Even Greater Facilities

to supply their demands in the future.

If you have overlooked a friend who should have a Christmas remembrance from you come to our store and we will provide the article that you want.

Thalhimer Brothers, Fifth and Broad Streets.

XMAS GREETING.

TO OUR FRIENDS:

We take pleasure, on this joyful occasion, in thanking our many friends and patrons for the support and encouragement they have accorded us during the year about to close. We have tried to deserve your favors, and assure you in the year before us it will be our purpose to keep our business up to the same order and completeness that have secured for us your commands. We wish you, one and all, a Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year, and hope to see you often.

Yours to command,

BALDWIN & BROWN,

Hardware, Steel Roofing, &c., - - - Opposite Old Market.

Xmas Presents for Men.

GUNS, RIFLES, PISTOLS,

Corduroy and Canvas Shooting Coats, Pants, and Leggings, Sole Leather Gun Cases, Sole Leather Ammunition Cases, Pocket-Knives and Razors, Golf Clubs and Caddy Bags, Cameras and Photographic Goods.

BICYCLES.

T. W. TIGNOR'S SONS,

1219 east Main, Corner Thirteenth.

(de 18-Su, Wa, W)

Blooming and Decorating Plants, ROSES, Violets, and Cut Flowers.

HAMMOND,

107 East Broad Street.

(no 3-Th, Sun & Tu)

SMYRNA RUGS

We have a large and varied assortment of Rugs, in all sizes, which make useful holiday gifts, at special low prices. Expecting to move shortly to our new Broad-street store.

GEORGE W. ANDERSON & SONS.

Carpent House,

1204 East Main Street.

(de 12-Su, W&F)

The Valentine Museum.

Mrs. W. E. Fletcher writes in the Midland Virginian:

Richmond is congratulating herself very heartily at present on the acquisition of a literary and scientific museum, the magnificent gift of the Valentine family. It is the first institution of this kind that has ever been opened to the public in the city, and bespeaks the large heartedness, breadth of learning, and appreciation of that which is the best, on the part of the distinguished donor, the father, who first began it, and who provided for its establishment in his will.

No more refining and elevating form of philanthropy could have been devised. Here are relics of the past, memorials of those who have shed lustre on this country and on others, that seem to link us back to them. Here are models in sculpture and in painting, selected from galleries beyond the sea. And what is specially gratifying, the people of all classes seem to realize that a great privilege has been extended to them. It is by exposing to the public such masterpieces in collections that the taste of the people may be educated. Every tourist in Paris remarks on the eager avidity with which even the common people gaze upon the pictures in the great museums.

The children hang around them and drink in the beauties. They have for many centuries been educated along that line, and what is true of France is equally true of Italy and Holland. While they are ignorant on many things, they are developed in the appreciation of fine art.

This Valentine Museum has already quickened the pulse of the nation, amateurs who are struggling for recognition in their chosen line of work. It will encourage others to make collections for the good of others and so will extend its influence for good in many directions. For three weeks, night and day, crowds have been pouring into the museum, which is one of Richmond's old-time aristocratic mansions, that been but slightly altered, and is fitly the abode of the selected treasures of a past generation. The rear of the house opens out into a garden, long ago fitted up with statuary and fountains, with flowers everywhere in evidence. The museum will be open to the public, free of charge, on Saturday. All who can should see it.

Charles B. Roush in \$400,000 Deal.

(New York Herald, 24th.)

It is a curious fact noted with interest by real-estate brokers that this year the approach of the Christmas holiday has had practically no effect on the market. The important dealing of the last few days was followed yesterday by a series of good deals unusual on what is really the eve of the most important holiday of the year.

Charles Broadway Roush again figured in the most important of these deals, and which is one of Richmond's old-time aristocratic mansions, that been but slightly altered, and is fitly the abode of the selected treasures of a past generation. The rear of the house opens out into a garden, long ago fitted up with statuary and fountains, with flowers everywhere in evidence. The museum will be open to the public, free of charge, on Saturday. All who can should see it.

QUERIES & ANSWERS.

DATE OF NEXT EASTER DAY, ACCORDING TO JULIAN CALENDAR.

MODELLER OF MARSHALL STATUE.

The Year 1900 Last One of the Nineteenth Century—The Law as to Hunting—A Householder's Liability—Etc.

Patent Law.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

Is there a law prohibiting a person from making anything that has a patent on it for his own use? M. M'D.

Yes, there is such a law.

The Nineteenth Century.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

Will you please answer the following questions in your Query column? When does the nineteenth century expire? Will the year 1900 belong to the nineteenth or twentieth century? Please explain. Lorentz, W. Va. J. S. M.

The nineteenth century expires at midnight on the night of December 31, 1900.

Who "Christened" the Texas

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

Will you kindly inform me through your Query column who "christened" the battleship Texas? and greatly obliged. VIRGINIA.

The battleship Texas was "christened" by Miss Madge Williams, of Brenham, Tex., a granddaughter of General Sam Houston. She is now Mrs. Roy Hearne, her husband being captain of Company I, First Texas Volunteer Infantry.

Easter in 1899.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

On which day of the week, and on what day of the month, and in what month of the year will Easter come, according to the Julian period, in the year 1899? Narcott, Va. C. S.

Easter in 1899, according to the Julian Calendar, will fall on April 23d. See Johnson's Encyclopedia and Smith and Cheetham's Dictionary.

According to the Gregorian Calendar, Easter-Day in 1899 will be April 24.

The Trade Dollar.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

B. Hay is a little girl who has a trade silver dollar, and she wants to know how much it is worth and where she can exchange it. The shops will not take it at all. Please answer in your Sunday Dispatch, December 18th. "LITTLE GIRL."

At one time the government redeemed these dollars at par, but the limit of that law expired long ago. They can now only be sold as bullion or to collectors. The latter will pay for them between 75 and 90 cents.

A Question About Ores.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

Enclosed you will find two samples of ores. Please tell an old reader of your paper what they are. If they are of value, they will be a help to our old State. The sample in the rock stands the odds. H. B. P.

Skipwith, Va., December 23, 1898.

We are unable to comply with your request. Send samples to the State Commissioner of Agriculture, in this city, and he will give you the information you seek free of charge.

Steamship Rudder.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

To settle a dispute, will you please answer the following questions:

(1) Is the rudder on the large ocean steamers in front or behind?
(2) Does one man on the large steamers manage the rudder without aid of steam?
A. B. C.

(3) The rudder on large ocean steamers is always in the stern (hind-part) of the vessel, and the wheel by which the rudder is managed is on the bridge in the fore-part of the steamship.

(2) It takes two men on a large ocean steamer to manage the rudder by means of the wheel, with the assistance of steam or electricity.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

Please inform me (1) if a man is liable to a fine for trapping birds and rabbits on his own land.
(2) If others kill rabbits, squirrels, and birds on my land, after being notified that I object, are they liable to fine?
Well-Water, Va. F. N. M.

1. The law is general as to trapping partridges; therefore no one can lawfully trap them on his own land. (Rabbits can be trapped.) See Code 1887, section 2673.

2. Any person hunting, shooting, or trespassing on the lands of another without the consent of the owner, or tenant, is liable for damages and fine—see Code 1887, section 2671.

The Marshall Statue.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

Will you kindly inform me who is the real sculptor that modeled and executed the statue of John Marshall in the Washington group?

I have heard that the artist was Crawford, though the lines of the late Major Innes Randolph, opening "We are glad to see you, John Marshall, my boy, so fresh from the chisel of Rogers," &c., have produced the impression that the late Randolph Rogers was the sculptor. This, however, is believed to be erroneous. It would be of interest to have the matter settled.

Randolph Rogers did not model the statue of John Marshall which is on the monument in the Capitol Square, but it was "pointed up" from a 3-foot sketch, left by Thomas Crawford. This was done by two of Crawford's workmen—Blasett and Moretti. Randolph Rogers only modeled the Nelson and Lewis statues.

A Merry and Joyous Christmas.

Till the end of this month, and all through January, we will offer

Unusual and Unequalled Bargains

in closing out our stock. Come often and get bargains.

MEYER SYCLE, 103 East Broad Street, Next Corner First.

and the trophies at the base of the monument.

Trouble With a Young Mare.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

What would be the symptoms of a young mare suffering from inflammation of the kidneys? Would it appear like colic to an inexperienced person? What would give relief and permanent cure? Zulla, Va. A SUBSCRIBER.

On page 68 of the Special Report on Diseases of the Horse, issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, is a detailed description of the symptoms and treatment of inflammation of the kidneys, and on page 49 of the same report directions for the treatment of colic in horses is given. Ask your congressman to try to get you a copy of that publication.

It is possible that some of the symptoms for the two diseases are the same, and an inexperienced person might not be able to distinguish between them.

A Question About Dates.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

I was born on the 13th day of April, 1871. Please tell me what day of the week that was; also, what day of the week June 20, 1871 was. SUBSCRIBER.

First.

4) 1,871 January 31st.

February 28th.

March 31st.

April 30th.

May 31st.

June 30th.

Friday, sixth day of week.

Second.

4) 1,871 January 31st.

February 28th.

March 31st.

April 30th.

May 31st.

June 30th.

Friday, sixth day of week.

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Public-School Problem.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

Will you kindly publish in the Query column of your paper the law regulating the attendance of a pupil at public schools? There is in force in this section a rule suspending a child from school when he or she has been absent from school for a period of three days in a week of six days in a month, and not allowing a re-entrance until the case is investigated by the School Board. Will you kindly publish the statute upon which this rule is founded and an opinion upon the legality of the law?

The rule referred to states that a child cannot be reinstated except at the regular monthly meeting of the School Board, which is on each first Friday in each month.

Dunville, Va.

Section 153 of the Code of 1887 provides that the City School Board "is empowered especially to make and carry out regulations for the management of public-school property and funds in the city, * * * the attendance of pupils upon the schools, etc."

A Householder's Liability.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

Do the laws of this State allow a married man's wages to be attached to satisfy a claim of a man who went security for another? S. H. F.

Your question is not clear. Probably you mean to ask if a married man's salary can be attached for a liability which he incurred as surety for another. Section 352 of the Code of 1887, provides that wages owing to a laboring-man being a householder, not exceeding \$50 per month, shall be exempt from distress, levy, or garnishment.

There is also an act passed by the last Legislature (Acts of Assembly, 1897-'98, page 695) which further aims to protect laboring-men and householders. Section 357 provides that even if the householder or laborer waives the exemption provided by section 352, such waiver may not be taken advantage of. You should observe, however, that where the salary is over \$50, all above that amount is liable.

Raining Frogs.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

Will you please settle a dispute between two persons here. One says he has

seen it rain little frogs in great quantities in knots and bunches. The other contends that he saw double, and that it is all a delusion and humbug. Please answer the above in Sunday's Dispatch, as the persons have selected that paper to settle the dispute in preference to the Scientific American. JAMES L. Farmville, Va.

It has been asserted that showers of fish and frogs have been occasioned by whirlwinds scooping up the contents of ponds and distributing them over the country, and it is barely possible, therefore, that an exhibition of this sort may have been vouchsafed to the affirming party in this dispute. But it is much more likely that he is mistaken. The sight of a great abundance of small frogs—hopping about, not raining down—at the time of a shower, is not uncommon, the explanation being that the congenial circumstances have induced them to come out of their retreats.

Assays of Minerals.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

Please answer through your Query column whether or not Virginia has a mineral assayer, and if so, where is his office? If there is no such official, where can I get minerals analyzed, and what will be the cost. P. W. H. Cornith, Va.

The Act of Assembly, approved February 14, 1892, provides for "assaying for the benefit of the owners thereof of any minerals found in this State." The Board of Agriculture bears the cost of this work out of its agricultural fund. To enable it to carry out this work according to the intention of the Legislature, and within the ability of the board as to cost, it is necessary that the following instructions be followed strictly:

1. A specimen of the mineral must be sent by mail to the Commissioner of Agriculture, accompanied by a letter from the owner of the land, stating what he owns and how far it has been developed. If it is found worthy of assay after examination by the Department Chemist, the owner will be furnished with instructions to send to this department at least ten pounds prepaid, accompanied with a description of the mine, vein, location, etc., according to printed forms. It will not be made for parties having had assays till those who have filed applications and had none are served. No assays will be made from the minerals of a mine already assayed, except by the special direction of the Commissioner of Agriculture and for special seasons.

This work is expensive to the Department of Agriculture, and while it is of importance to the State, as well as saving of money to mineral-land owners, still this work must be confined to minerals of real value and to bona-fide parties, and cannot be performed merely to gratify curiosity or to test idle imaginations of mineral wealth.

The Volunteers.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

Will you kindly state through your columns what is the law relative to the mustering out of the volunteer army after peace has been declared. By so doing you will not only greatly oblige me, but also others. I shall remain, yours very truly,

WADE H. FRAZIER,
Corporal Co. K, Fourth Regiment, U. S. Vol., Infantry, Mazatlan, Cuba.

While the enlistment was for two years, unless sooner discharged, the government contemplates mustering out all men who went with the volunteers in anticipation of war, and to substitute in their places men who are willing to serve in the present state of affairs. But the fact that peace has been declared, it is now claimed, does not compel the President to discharge men who volunteered for two years, because while there is actually no fighting, the consequences of the war require the presence of more troops than the regular army can furnish, and a man who volunteered cannot complain that there is no fighting, and demand that he must be discharged, because the necessity for the volunteers may be just as great in accomplishing the purposes for which the war was begun as if a battle were actually going on. However, the prospects are that all unwilling volunteers will be discharged in the course of a few months.

Twining Vines.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

Being in company with some lady friends, the subject of the vine was discussed, but not being satisfied with our conclusions, we appeal to you, and respectfully ask answers to the following questions:

1. Why does the vine in our latitude invariably twine around its support in an inverse order to the movements of the hands of a clock or watch?

2. How does it cling or twine in the Southern Hemisphere (equidistant from the equator) in the same or inverse order as with us? If different from ours, then why?

3. If the vine twines in different directions in the two hemispheres—i. e., Northern and Southern—how does it twine immediately on the equator, and why?

Your answer to the foregoing questions will be appreciated by

G. A. H. AND HIS LADY FRIENDS,
Palmyra, Va.

There are a great many twining vines in both the North and South Temperate zones, and still more in the tropics. Some of these twine in one direction and some in the other. On an examination of thirteen different species of twining vines in Southern Michigan, it was found that six twined in one direction and seven in the other. The hop, honeysuckle, and wild buckwheat twine throughout the South from east to west; or in the same direction as the hands of a watch. The climbing bean, bindweeds, morning glories, and dodders twine through the South from west to east, or contrary to the hands of a watch. The direction of twining is constant for any one species in either the Northern or Southern Hemisphere, and it is usually constant for all of the species of a genus. There is no satisfactory explanation as to why some vines twine to the right and some to the left. The object of twining in all cases is, of course, to obtain a support so that the foliage may reach the light and air.

Notices of New Books.

CYRANO DE BERGERAC. A Play in Five Acts. By Edmond Rostand. With Some Forewords, by Charles F. Rideal, Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, &c. P. Tennyson Neely, London and New York. Paper, Pages 367, No. 53 of Neely's Tourist Library, Issued Daily at \$3 a year.

We are glad of the opportunity to examine this work, which has produced such a sensation. But as a literary work, it does not possess any high merit, and so compare Rostand, on account of its production, to Shakespeare, is almost ridiculous. Cyrano's nose and riotous dandyism may transcend any that have been depicted by Shakespeare; but Rostand's brain is incapable of the conceptions which filled Shakespeare's. Cyrano was a poet and playwright in his day, and it is charged that Moliere plagiarized from him.

This play presents a pitiable picture of the theatre, the army, and the social

A Merry Happy New Year!



With a feeling of deep gratitude we greet our patrons and the readers of the DISPATCH this Christmas morning. In thanking them for their liberal patronage during the last few weeks, we must add that we heartily wish one and all a joyous Christmas-time and a New Year prosperous beyond measure.

We believe that we have in no small way contributed to the happiness that will reign supreme to-day, not only in many homes, both in Richmond and Manchester, but in homes for miles around. Thousands of gifts that are now being admired were bought at our store. We gave the purchaser the best possible value for his or her money, as we always do, and in this way enabled our patrons to increase their lists of friends, whom they intended to remember on this felicitous occasion.

The outpouring of people who directed their steps to our doors was far in excess of our expectations. They drew heavily upon our warehouses, but we are glad to say that we met every demand as promptly as possible, even in the departments where the throngs were the greatest, and our stock to-day is a complete one, as judging from the usual Richmond standard, affording an opportunity for belated gift-buyers.

Our tremendous sales—the greatest in the history of the store—will encourage us to make even greater efforts next holiday season, when we will promise to excel all the South in the fine showing of Christmas goods that we will make.

Our first Christmas-trade season at Foushee and Broad streets proves to us that we were wise in coming here.

The Store Will Be Closed All Day Monday.

Julius Meyer's Sons.

seasonable story by Francois Coppée, "The Edge of the Marsh," a complete short tale by Etta W. Felt; poems by Edith M. Thomas, Mina Irving, Clinton Seward, Martha McCulloch, William Susan Archer Webb, and others; and a varied "Marginalia" department, including contributions by R. K. Munkittrick, James B. Cable, Charles H. Cran-ble, Isaac W. Eaton, and St. John Grimké.

MASTER SUNSHINE. Mrs. C. E. Traser. Published by T. Y. Crowell & Co., New York and Boston. One Volume. 8vo., 54 pages. Price, 15 cents.

This is a most pleasing little story which will delight children and inspire them to worthy deeds. The "Master Sunshine" described is an 8-year-old boy, who boasts the pompous name, Frederick Alexander Norton. Fred is a Jewish child and wins many friends, though he is not too fond of them. He is a juvenile reader with pronounced piety. The whole story is told with exact simplicity and beauty and cannot fail to have an influence for good on all who read it.

THE MESSENGER OF RICHMOND COLLEGE. Christmas No. Published by the Mu Sigma Rho and Phi Kappa Literary Societies.

This little magazine, always fresh with the enthusiasm of the students, and withal most carefully edited, appears in a Christmas garb, which is very enticing. Red and green are the colors used on the cover, and there is a Yuletide sprinkling of holiday in the design, which is quite pretty. To the artistic skill of Mr. Alan D. Jones is due this innovation, and the reader is likewise indebted to him for a clever little story, entitled "Matches." Among the other excellent contributions, most of which are submitted anonymously, are "Invisible," "The Fading of a Flower," "A Story," "Selfish Love," and "A Child of Nature." Mr. B. Mercer Hartman has a pretty little poem entitled, "Designation," and there are interesting college notes and clippings from exchanges.

JOHN G. CARLISLE AS DETECTIVE. He Arrests Cabbman for Theft of His Wife's Sensible Sack.

(New York Herald, 24th.)

John G. Carlisle, former senator and Secretary of the Treasury, was a complainant in Jefferson Market Police Court yesterday morning. His wife had lost a \$300 sensible sack in coming from Washington a week ago. The sack was found by Richard P. Leake, 27 years old, of No. 48 west Thirty-eighth street, of having stolen it.

Mr. Carlisle said he and his wife returned from Washington to their home at No. 4 north Washington square. They arrived at the west Twenty-ninth street ferry in the evening and found Leake's cab. Mr. Carlisle said he noticed the cab was the only old-fashioned type of cab there, it having been just opened against the disapproval. When Mr. Carlisle and his wife arrived home, he said, he thought the other had the sack, but it was found in the cab. He had been taken into the cab, Mr. Carlisle said.

He went back the next day and asked till he saw Leake, whom he accused of having the sack. The cabbman denied the charge, and said he had never seen him. Mr. Carlisle had him arrested.

In court the complaint clerk, in taking Mr. Carlisle's affidavit, asked, "Mr. Carlisle, did the defendant at the west Twenty-third-street ferry?" Mr. Carlisle objected, saying he wished the actual photographs taken on the spot.

When Mr. Carlisle stepped to the bar, he was asked what he had to say. He said he had been taken into the cab, Mr. Carlisle said.

Magistrate Crane said it was too bad that he should have to go to court and Mr. Carlisle said it was the first time he had ever sworn to such a complaint as he had made in a case of this kind.